State/UT	Response
	have also been appointed comprising member of Gram Panchayats and are required to conduct inspections in order to checks the working of FPS.
West Bengal	Total involvement of PRIs in the functioning of TPDS to make the system more transparent and accountable is being undertaken.
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Local elected bodies have been delegated sufficient powers for smooth functioning of TPDS viz. supervision of movement of foodgrains issued from godowns to the FPS, grant of licence to run FPS, supervising the actual functioning of FPS with regard to the quality standards and actual issue of foodgrains to the cardholders.
Chandigarh	Panchayats are involved in functioning of the PDS, viz., monitoring the working of FPS, recommendation for issue of ration cards, allotment of FPS.
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	The UT Admn. has constituted vigilance committee by involving panchayat members of respective area for checking of fair price shops running in their respective area. For opening of new fair price shop, the opinion of gram Panchayat/Gram Sabha is taken consideration.
Lakshadweep	Fair price shops are run by cooperative societies and managed by elected board members. Panchayat Committees act as Advisory cum Vigilance Committees on PDS. Public can make complaints to advisory-cum vigilance committee.
Pondicherry	As no elected PRIs are functioning in the UT, the social audit system through PRI has not been implemented.

Import of Sugar

5049. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugar was imported from Pakistan during the last two years despite adequate stock of indigenous sugar in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether private business houses were importing sugar or any PSU was importing it from Pakistan; and

(d) when the last consignment of sugar was received from Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) Import of sugar is allowed under Open General Licence (O.G.L.) subject to registration of import contracts with APEDA. As such, under this system, various private parties are importing sugar as per their own commercial judgement. As per the information published by DGCIS Calcutta, Ministry of Commerce, during last two financial years 1997-98 and 1998-99, a quantity of 33,226.0 MTs and 5,79,073.0 MTs respectively, was reported imported from Pakistan. No sugar has been imported during the aforesaid period on Government account.

(c) Various private business houses may be importing sugar from Pakistan but no information about their imports of sugar from Pakistan is available with the Government. However, M/s PEC Ltd., a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under the administrative control of Ministry of Commerce, has imported sugar from Pakistan under O.G.L. on behalf of the private parties.

(d) The last consignment of sugar is reported to have been arrived from Pakistan at Rail Cargo, Amritsar Customs, Amritsar on 19.6.1999. No import of sugar from Pakistan has been reported after June, 1999.

Out-Turn Ratio for Rice

5050. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) since when the issue relating to fixation of out-turn ratio for rice has been pending with Government;

(b) the action taken by Government on the report of CFTRI; and

(c) by when Government are likely to finalise this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) to (c) The Government of India, through the Food Corporation of India, entrusted the study of trial milling of paddy for determination of out-turn ratio to three institutes engaged in research activities relating to Rice Milling